



SOUTHWESTER

The Southwest Chapter—Antique & Classic Boat Society newsletter serving Arkansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas

Spring 2013

President's Message

The boating season is here. Di Johnson and Adam Finn organized the wood boat display at the Houston Boat Show again this year. It featured the Kids Build Boats Program with the help of John Platou and friends.

We are looking forward to the Keels and Wheels Boat Show the first weekend in May. This year's show will feature blonde-deck boats and Yellow Jacket Boats. There will be dinners on Friday and Saturday night.

The show is still looking for more boats to display. Registration forms are available at www.keels-wheels.com. We also need volunteers- people to help place boats and put up stands on Friday; also reload boats on trailers on Sunday afternoon. Contact Robert Black, blackd@earthlink.net. 713-974-7919. We need judges on Saturday morning. Contact me at bobtrane@ix.netcom.com, 214-957-3692.

This is an opportunity for all chapter members to get involved in a great weekend.

Bob Van Guilder – ACBS Southwest Chapter President



To the left...kids building boats at the Houston indoor Boat Show.

Below...The Austin contingent arriving for the board of directors meeting in February.



57th Houston Boat Show, January 4 – 13, 2013

Once again, the Southwest Chapter of ACBS invited the Texas Chapter of AOMCI to team-show our boats and motors at the annual Houston Boat Show held at the Reliant Center. This is a huge show - over 1000 new “for-sale” boats were there accompanied by all kinds of outdoor gear, campers and ‘what all’.

However by popular acclaim, the most appealing and crowd pleasing boats (and motors) were our oldies. This year’s exhibit was organized by Di Johnson and Adam Finn. This is the 26th year that the antiques and classics have graced the Houston Show. In fact we were pleased to have on hand and joining us, Mr. Wayne Myers, who co-hosted the original oldies display in 1987. Three impeccable feature inboards anchored the corners of our display:

- **Jacob Deegan’s 1940 17’ Chris Craft Deluxe Runabout**
- **Mike Friesel’s 1946 16’ Chris Craft Special Runabout**
- **Dave Parker’s 1947 16’ Gar Wood Ensign**

SW Chapter members displaying outboard boat/motor rigs included:

- **Chip Rathbun’s 1958 13’ Corson with W1958 50HP Johnson “Fat Fifty” sporting a high gloss polish.**
- **Bob Macaluso’s durable 1957 15’ Yellow Jacket Catalina w/ Mark 55. This is a runner you see at all of our wet meets.**
- **Di Johnson’s 1948 15’ Thompson TVT w/1949 Speeditwin & his childhood outboard collection.**
- **Knut Bulow’s impeccably restored 1957 15’ CarVer Colonel Delux w/ 1958 Johnson 35HP Seahorse.**





The following TX AOMCI members displayed outboard powered boats:

- **Dan Kubecka's awesome 1957 15' Yellow Jacket Riviera w/1955 Evinrude 25.**
- **Adam Finn's immaculate 1958 15' Rexcraft Regent w/ 1959 Johnson 35HP Seahorse. This boat looks brand new!**
- **Jeff Workman's Z Boat- 9' Home Built w/ 1956 Johnson 5.5HP (see below).**
- **14 year old Jack Stevens' 1960 14' Glen-L "Zip" w/1960 Johnson 40HP and his home built 8' Minimost Hydro w/ 1963 Evinrude 18 HP. Jack has the boating and old motor "bug" – we love that.**
- **Emma Grace Bayless' self-built 8' Minimost Hydro and 1973 Johnson 6hp. This is an ACBS Keels and Wheels Corinthian Award winning rig.**

Jeff Workman, John Platou and Jeff Stillwell led our booth's most visited feature. Supported by other chapter members, we sponsored an ambitious project to build two 8' wooden dinghies with all the assembly work done by kids attending the show. This event has proven to be the biggest crowd pleaser over the last three shows. Spanning two weekends (one Saturday hampered by show closure for the Houston Texan's football playoff game), we logged in 431 youthful boat builders that assembled two complete boats. This was the only kids' activity - at the entire Houston Boat Show - that was free of charge to families. At the end of the show, we drew two winning tickets from the collective crew of builders and presented the boats to their new owners.





The outboard boat motor combo that commanded the most attention was the hand-built 9' "Z" Boat patterned after the 8' Be-Bop plans in the Boat Builders Handbook. This boat is a work of art with exquisite attention to detail on the covering boards, seamed deck, hatch covers and the hand-crafted windshield. Powered by a 1956 Johnson 5½ hp, this outstanding example of boat building craftsmanship was the creation of owner/builder Jeff Workman of Crosby, TX. Jeff, as influenced from his other hobby of restoring Datsun 240Z cars, built his "Z" Boat for and named the craft "Wild Child" after his 4 year old son John.

Free standing outboards were also on display. John Platou displayed his complete line-up of 1960 Evinrudes, leaving home only his 75 hp V-4. Included was John's fresh-out-of -the-box, never-been-in-the-water, immaculate 1963 Evinrude Fastwin 18 HP. John also showed off his wooden Hoosier Aqua Plane made by the Tippecanoe Boat Company, Tippecanoe Lake, IN (try and say that real fast). This was the original, towed planing board that preceded water skis.

Di Johnson had his three childhood motors on display; Elgin 2½, Johnson 5hp (TD-20) and Mercury KE-7 complete with his dad's photos of him using each motor. Chip Rathbun of Flower Mound, TX brought his beautifully restored 1951 Chris Craft Challenger 5 hp and a 1948 Mercury Comet 6 hp.





Board Meeting-February 2013

Keels and Wheels...Al Unser, Jr. will be Grand Marshall. There will be dinners at Lakewood Friday and Saturday nights. Volunteers will wear blue Keels and Wheels shirts so people will know where to get help. We will implement a new system to coordinate trailers and boats during reloading after the show.

Jan Ueckert has been elected the new director for the chapter.

The patches are being sewn on tool bags for the 20th anniversary of the chapter. They should be ready in several weeks.



Calender

Keels and Wheels Show, Houston, Texas May 3-5

Heartland Chapter Boat Show, Table Rock Lake, Oklahoma, June 7-9,

WBA Ride and Show, Dallas, Texas, September 28-29

Lake LBJ Antique Boat Outing, Marble Falls, Texas, October 18-20